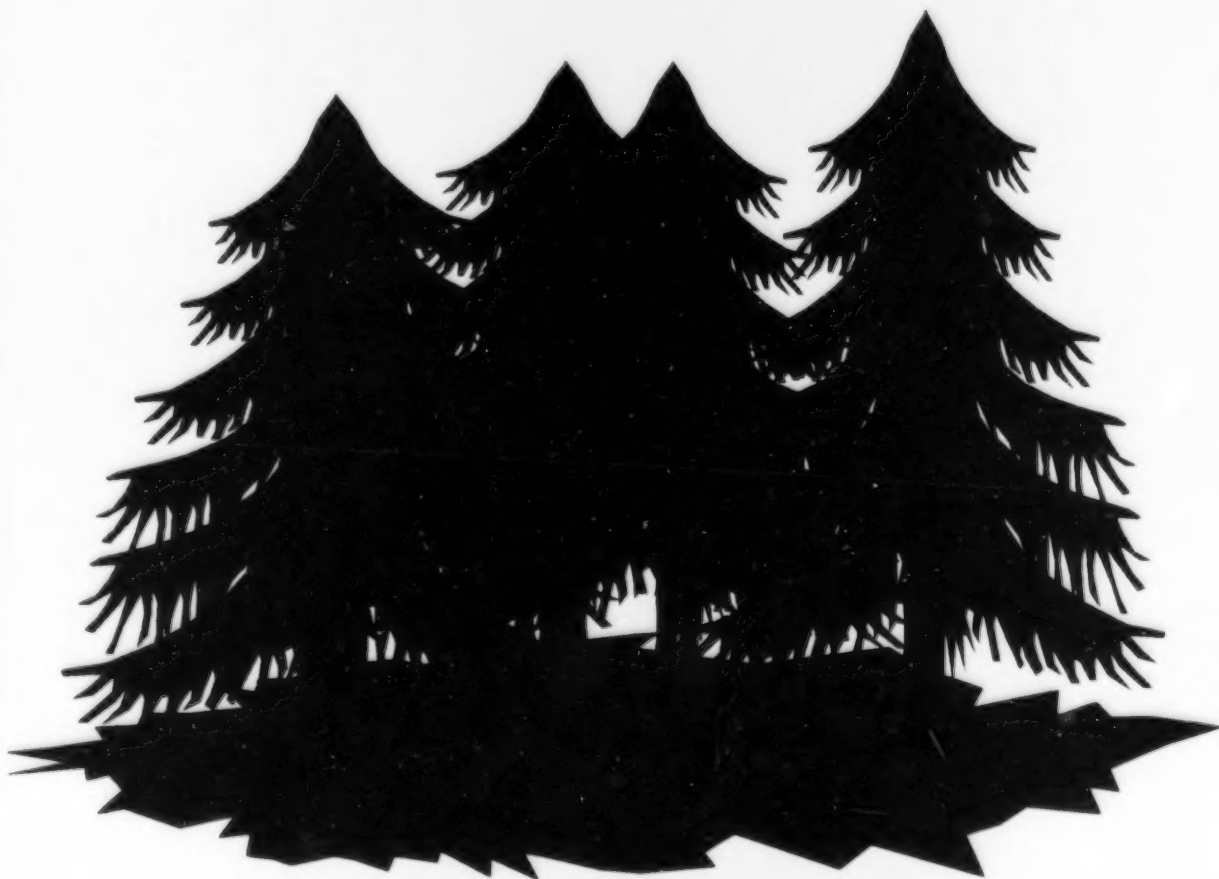


# **Nordegg Forest Harvesting Plan**



**Clearwater Forest Area  
Land and Forest Service  
Alberta Environment**

## Purpose

Alberta Environment, Land and Forest Service is developing the Nordegg Forest Harvesting Plan to determine where and how timber will be harvested from portions of the management units (green areas shown within the blue outlined boundary on the adjacent map). Small annual timber permits will be issued according to the planning recommendations that result from this process.

The current forest management unit plans indicate that much of the land base within the planning area is productive and contributes to the annual growth of the forest. The intention is to use the timber, instead of letting it succumb to such disturbances as fire, insects or diseases. Alberta Environment believes that there is more social benefit to local communities by providing employment and building materials through harvesting than by letting trees decay or be destroyed. Although there is currently no active timber allocation in the area, the land base contributes to the annual allowable cut.

## Background

The forested landscape in the Green Area of the province has been divided into smaller units for planning purposes. These smaller units are called Forest Management Units (FMUs). The R06 and R08 management unit plans address areas for protection and areas for timber harvesting and other multiple uses.

Public input was sought through the following policies and plans, which support the current set of forest management unit plans (approved in 1986). These documents indicate that timber harvesting may occur in certain areas.

- A Policy for Resource Management of the Eastern Slopes, Revised 1984
- Management Unit Plan, R06, Effective May 1, 1986
- Management Unit Plan R08, Effective May 1, 1986
- Nordegg-Red Deer Sub-Regional Integrated Resource Plan, Approved March 4, 1986
- David Thompson Corridor Local Integrated Resource Plan, Approved April 24, 1992
- Wapiabi Candidate Site: Special Places Local Committee Recommendation Report, February 1999

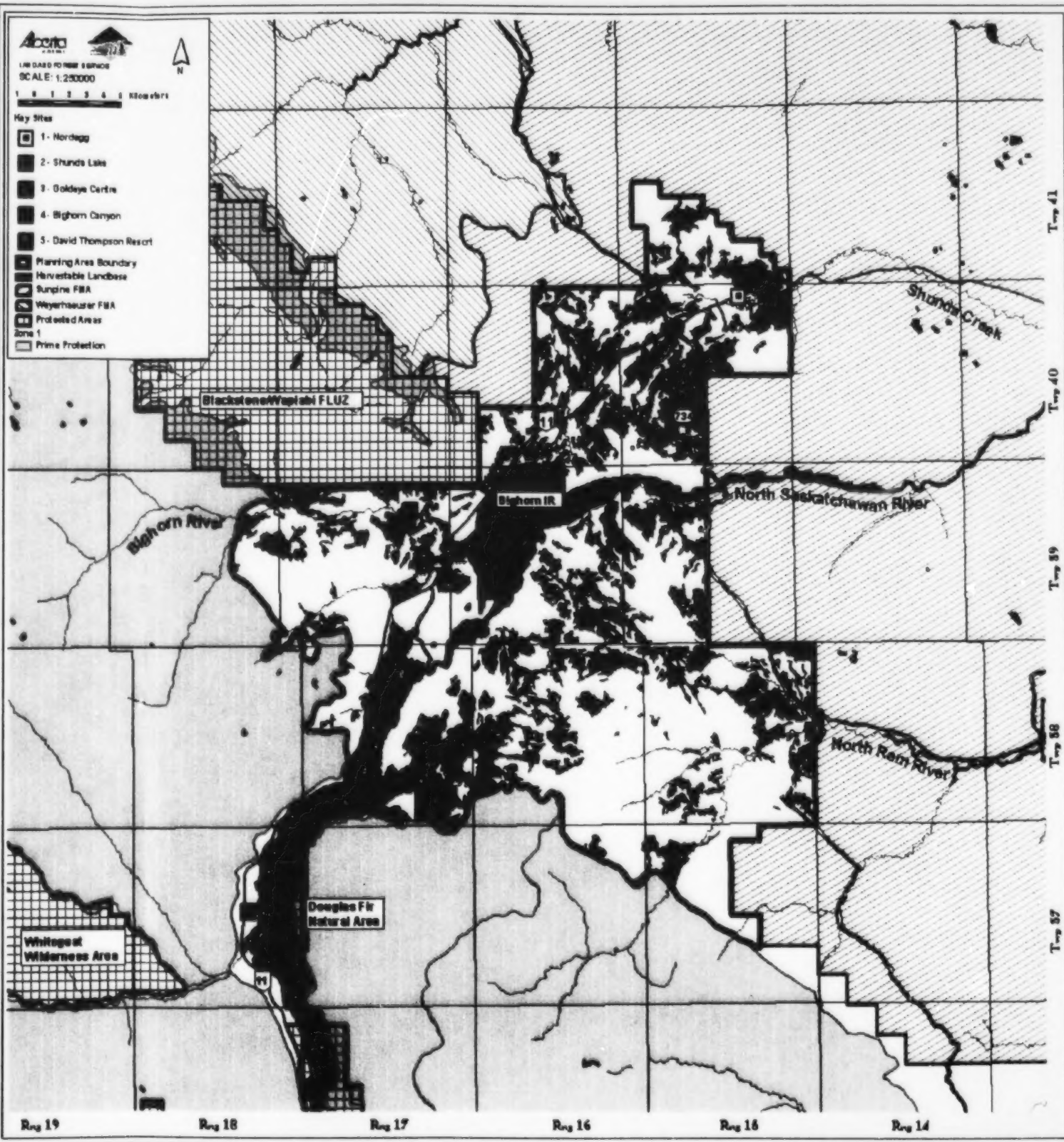
The Forest Management Unit Plan designates that timber will be harvested from lands identified in the plan. The *Forests Act* allows for the Minister to allocate dispositions for the purpose of harvesting timber.

## Description

- The total gross area under review for timber permit issuance is 65,920 hectares.
- The net harvestable area is about 13,500 hectares (less than 1/4 of the gross area).
- The proposed annual harvest is about 350 hectares per year (about 0.5% of the total area).

The net harvestable area is determined by deleting areas identified within planning nodes such as Prime Protection (Zone 1), recreation leases, First Nations I.R., protected areas, inoperable areas (flood plains, slopes over 45%, isolated stands and so on).

Existing legislation ensures that all harvested areas will be reforested.



## Public Involvement

Public Involvement will be an important part of the forest harvesting planning process. Stakeholders and the general public will have opportunities throughout the process to discuss the issues and have input into determining how and where harvesting will take place. Alberta Environment, Land and Forest Service staff will hold information meetings with different stakeholder groups to discuss how they wish to be involved in the process. After consulting with these groups, the public involvement process may be refined to better meet the local needs.

Open houses and workshops will be held for the general public at key stages in the process. Individuals and groups will also have the opportunity to make written submissions to Alberta Environment, Land and Forest Service offices.

## Proposed Timeline

### Information/Issue Identification - February to April 2000

- Information meetings with stakeholders.
- Public open house to provide information on the project and identify issues and interests.
- Refinement of the public involvement process, based on stakeholder input.

### Review Forest Harvesting Scenarios - April to June 2000

- Establish objectives and criteria to review harvesting scenarios, based on issues identified.
- Review and determine preferred harvesting scenarios.
- Open house for the public to review and provide feedback on preferred harvesting scenarios.

### Final Recommendations and Report - June to September 2000

- Public meeting to review draft recommendations and scenarios for forest harvesting.
- Written submissions will be received from public, following meeting.
- Final recommendations and report, with consideration to public input.
- Final approved plan and recommendations.

## How You Can Be Involved

- Attend the public meetings (they will be advertised in the local papers).
- Make written submissions to Alberta Environment, Land and Forest Service offices.
- Put yourself on the mailing list. Fax or write the address below.

**For more information or to be on the mailing list, contact:**

A.H. (Butch) Shenfield, Area Manager  
Clearwater Forest Area  
Land and Forest Service, Alberta Environment  
Box 1720, Rocky Mountain House, AB.  
T0M 1T0  
Ph: (403) 845-8272 (*Dial 310-0000 for toll-free*)  
Fax: (403) 845-4750

